BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 10-212

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Operations

AIR BASE OPERABILITY

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This instruction implements AFPD 10-2, *Readiness,* by explaining air base operability (ABO) policy, operational procedures, and training for contingencies. See **Attachment 1** for a glossary of abbreviations, acronyms, and terms.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This is the initial publication of AFI 10-212, substantially revising AFR 360-1. It redefines ABO to describe the capability needed to establish and maintain air base readiness during any contingency and realigns ABO related planning factors to address those aspects of passive defense under the direct control of The Civil Engineer. Refer to the following Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) and Air Force Instructions (AFI) for other aspects of air base readiness not addressed in this AFI: AFI 10-214, *Air Force Prime Readiness in Base Services (RIBS) Program;* AFI 10-602, *Determining Logistics Supportability and Readiness Requirements;* AFPD 31-3, *Air Base Defense,* AFI 31-301, *Air Base Defense Program;* AFI 32-2001, *Fire Protection;* AFI 32-3001, *Explosive Ordnance Disposal;* AFI 32-4001, *Disaster Preparedness Planning and Operations;* AFI 32-4007, *Camouflage, Concealment, and Deception;* AFI 34-501, *Mortuary Affairs*; and AFI 41-106, *Medical Readiness Planning and Training*. Guidance for these other aspects of air base readiness described in AFR 360-1 remain in effect until publication of the appropriate AFI.

Chapter 1

ABO PROGRAM AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1A—ABO Program

1.1. Definition. The ABO program:

- Gives guidelines for maintaining air base readiness during contingencies.
- Brings together unit operations that interact during a contingency so that the installation can continue to execute its assigned missions.
- Includes guidelines for planning, organizing, training, equipping, and command and control during contingencies caused by nature, accident, or hostile or friendly operations.

Section 1B—Responsibilities

1.2. The Civil Engineer, Headquarters US Air Force (HQ USAF/CE):

- Acts as the office of primary responsibility for the Air Force ABO program.
- Represents the Air Force to the Air Force Council and the Joint Staff on ABO issues.
- Approves the Air Base Systems Research, Development, and Acquisition (RD&A) Strategic Plan.
- Develops, coordinates, and issues ABO policy, programs and doctrine.

1.3. Office of The Civil Engineer, Directorate of Operations and Maintenance, Readiness Programs Division (HQ USAF/CEOR):

- Oversees the ABO program.
- Reviews ABO directives and guidance prepared by the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency (AFCESA), prior to AF/CE approval.
- Advocates for ABO acquisition projects.

1.4. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition), Combat Systems Division (SAF/AQPT):

- Develops, coordinates and publishes the ABO program management directive.
- Advocates for ABO research and development projects.

1.5. Chief of Security Police, Operations Division (HQ USAF/SPO):

- Develops and coordinates Active Defense initiatives.
- Participates in the prioritization initiatives related to Active Defense.
- Provides Active Defense oversight through the Air Base Defense program.

1.6. Headquarters Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, Directorate of Readiness (HQ AFCESA/DX):

- Develops, coordinates, and maintains ABO-related Air Force instructions.

- Through Air Education and Training Command (AETC), establishes and monitors formal ABO training.
- Establishes and coordinates ABO training standards across all functional lines.

1.7. MAJCOMs and Air Reserve Component (ARC):

- Designate a staff organization to support ABO planning, operations, and training initiatives.
- Integrate ABO planning, organizing, training, equipping, and command and control with the functional MAJCOM or ARC staff.
- Organize readiness boards to direct and oversee the command ABO program. Composition and suggested agenda will be described in the MAJCOM or ARC supplement to this AFI.
- Develop program review and quality assurance programs to monitor installation ABO programs.
- Develop criteria for exercise contingency response at installations.
- Through MAJCOM IG, evaluates the ABO program.
- Establish contingency readiness exercise sites.

1.8. Installation Commanders:

- Chair, or designate a chairperson, for the installation Readiness Council. The Readiness Council facilitates the integration of all functional activities affecting installation establishment and maintenance of the installation during contingencies. Readiness Council composition and suggested agenda will be described in the MAJCOM or ARC supplement to this AFI.
- Set up a single, comprehensive ABO program that supports all units on the installation, including units of other Services.
- Direct and oversee the installation ABO program to ensure its effectiveness and compliance with Air Force policies.
- Staff, train, equip, and prepare ABO response elements necessary to establish and maintain installation readiness during contingencies. See **Chapter 2** for description of ABO response elements.
- Consider the threat to the installation and personnel requirements when formulating the ABO program.
- At overseas installations work with the host nation on a memorandum of understanding or host-nation support agreement commensurate with the threat.

1.9. All Units. Each assigned or attached unit:

- Acts as the staffing agency for the installation Readiness Council in support of the installation commander, or his/her desginee.
- Supports the installation's ABO program with unit planning, training, and operations.
- Appoints a single point of contact to manage and coordinate unit aspects of the installation ABO program with the Civil Engineer Readiness Flight.
- Budgets, acquires, and stores ABO equipment and supplies.

1.10. Base Civil Engineer (BCE):

- Plan facility acquisition and alteration to support ABO plans, requirements and operations. These may include:
- Hardening and construction.
- Damage assessment.
- Rapid runway repair.
- Base recovery after attack.
- Unexploded ordnance disposal.
- Reconnaissance.
- Redundant systems.
- Dispersal.
- Camouflage, concealment, and deception.
- Revamping other ABO capabilities.
- Through the Civil Engineer Readiness Flight, provides planning and training for the installation ABO program.

1.11. The Civil Engineer Readiness Flight:

- Develops an ABO program as outlined in this instruction.
- Briefs and advises the installation commander on measures planned, programmed, and initiated to ensure bases operate during contingencies. Usually accomplished during the installation Readiness Council.
- Coordinates ABO planning, programming, and budgeting with other offices.
- Assists the Survival Recovery Center or Contingency Support Staff commander.
- Works with the installation exercise evaluation team chief to evaluate ABO capabilities during readiness exercises.
- Directs the ABO information program.

Chapter 2

ABO PLANNING

2.1. Objective. The primary objective of ABO planning is to integrate and employ the components of the air base to ensure the installation is capable of sustaining its assigned mission(s) in the contingency environment presented by the expected threat according to location. Procedures for employing the ABO capability must be incorporated into all contingency planning documents used at the installation. Unit specific procedures will normally be outlined in planning documents developed by the responsible functional agency. Specific ABO planning requirements will be directed by the MAJCOM and will include base-wide measures and specialized tasks. General responsibilities for accomplishing ABO tasks will be incorporated in Base OPlan 32-1 (See AFI 32-4001, *Disaster Preparedness Planning and Operations*).

2.2. Passive Defense Planning. Addresses measures in response to a contingency to include:

2.2.1. Hardening. When planning for hardening:

- Balance the level of hardening and protection needed (depending on the type of buildings and utilities) and the contingency threat. (See *War Mobilization Plan 1 (WMP-1), Annex L* for a list of air base survivability criteria.)
- Consider methods such as:
- New Construction. Hardening increases structural strength and ballistic protection. Use hardening as a cost-effective method of improving protection in new construction.
- Revetments and Structural Alteration. Protect buildings with revetments, earth berms, and permanent structural alterations. These methods are also effective means of ballistic protection.
- Expedient Methods. Use sandbags, salvaged culverts, or steel drums filled with earth as effective expedient methods to reduce casualties and damage.

2.2.2. Dispersal. Unit commanders:

- Disperse key assets to secure resources.
- Provide redundant access routes to each area having aircraft, equipment, vehicles, or supplies subject to urgent recall during and after contingency operations.

NOTE:

Commanders planning for the dispersal of priority resources must work with the security police to ensure adequate security.

2.2.2.1. All commanders must either:

- Move work centers and other functions identified in the base dispersal plan to their dispersal locations.
- Prepare alternate locations when notified of impending contingencies.

2.2.2.2. The logistics group commander:

- Moves critical supply items from unhardened or open storage to dispersal locations in hardened facilities, semi-hardened shelters, or revetted areas.

- Uses the same methods for dispersing munitions, aerospace ground equipment, vehicles, and other critical resources (e.g. rapid runway repair equipment).

2.2.2.3. Commanders consider dispersing mission support functions by reallocating the use of existing buildings.

2.2.3. Camouflage, Concealment, and Deception (CCD):

- The Base Civil Engineer, through the Civil Engineer Readiness Flight, plans and coordinates all CCD efforts.
- Unit commanders perform the CCD tasks spelled out in the unit plan affecting their operations.
- See AFI 32-4007 for further guidance on CCD.

2.2.4. Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) Warfare Defense:

- Nuclear Warfare Defense. Personnel must know how to lessen the effects of fallout and continue their mission in an environment contaminated with radioactivity. Each US Air Force installation must establish:
- Detection and warning systems.
- Procedures to provide protective clothing and equipment for specialized teams.
- Exposure control procedures.
- Decontamination procedures.
- Procedures to protect vital command and control systems from electro-magnetic pulse (EMP) effects caused by high-altitude nuclear weapon detonations.
- Chemical-Biological (CB) Warfare Defense. Personnel assigned to, or identified for deployment to CB threat areas must know how to conduct sustained operations at a contaminated installation. ***Note: All personnel must know the procedures for rest and relief in toxic free areas.***
- Individual Protection. See AFI 32-4001.

2.3. Base Recovery Planning. Successful base recovery efforts require a coordinated and integrated approach. The recovery concept involves combined effort from personnel trained to operate as a team and, using specialized equipment, spearhead recovery efforts. The Survival Recovery Center (SRC) will provide command and control for recovery operations. Procedures for operating the SRC including command relationships, composition, activation, and deactivation will be addressed in the Base OPlan 32-1. (See AFI 32-4001 for further guidance on Base OPlan 32-1.) Base recovery measures during and after the contingency include:

2.3.1. Assessment:

- The SRC directs team efforts for quick initial reconnaissance to assess the installation after a contingency. Follow established priorities.
- All base personnel and organizations must report damage assessment after a contingency to the SRC through their respective control centers. Include:
- Facility damage.
- Fire.

- Casualties.
- Suspected contamination.
- Location of unexploded ordnance.
- Other factors affecting the installation's readiness.

2.3.2. Damage Assessment Teams (DAT). Civil Engineer (including EOD and CE Readiness Flight personnel), specialists, and base augmentees:

- Make up the DATs.
- Work under the direction of the Damage Control Center (DCC). The DCC reports to and receives direction from the SRC.

2.3.3. Minimum Operating Strip (MOS) Selection Team. This Team:

- Plots runway and taxiway damage information provided by the DATs. Identify candidates for the MOS to the senior operational commander based on damage repair capability, aircraft arresting systems, navigational aids, and access routes.
- Works under the direction of the SRC.

2.3.4. Senior Operational Commander. The senior operational commander selects the MOS based on the installation's repair capabilities, aircraft arresting systems, navigational aids, and access routes.

2.3.5. Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Reconnaissance, Safing, and Removal Teams. The commander of the SRC defines the clearance area that needs to be repaired and made safe by removing UXOs.

- Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Teams:
- Assess damage and make areas safe by removing UXOs.
- Answer to the EOD representative in the SRC.
- Explosive Ordnance Reconnaissance (EOR):
- Installation personnel report any UXOs found on the installation.
- Control centers gather EOR reports and forward them to the SRC.
- Bomb Removal Teams:
- Receive training from EOD to remove UXOs that have been rendered "safe".
- Work under the direction of the SRC.

2.3.6. Rapid Runway Repair (RRR) Teams:

- Repair craters, spalls, or other damage on aircraft operating surfaces.
- Work under the DCC.

2.3.7. Contamination Control Teams. (See AFI 32-4001 for recommended teams.) These teams:

- Mark and decontaminate portions of aircraft, areas, equipment, or facilities needed to support essential operations.
- Answer to their respective control center.

2.3.8. Installation Commanders:

- Decide which facilities, utilities, and services they need to support their missions.

- Report these needs to the DCC. Requirements may include:
- Aircraft arresting equipment.
- Contingency airfield lighting.
- Facilities, utilities, and services.
- ***Note: The repair actions are controlled by the DCC.***

2.3.9. Air Base Defense. This is addressed in AFPD 31-3, AFI 31-301, and Program Management Directive (PMD) 2041, *Air Base Defense*. Active Defense will continue to be a part of PMD 4021, *Air Base Operability*.

2.4. Operations Centers. Using the threat as the determining factor commanders:

- Determine the need for specific control centers.
- Combine control center operations where feasible. (See AFMAN 32-4004, *Contingency Response Operations,* for guidance on control center operations.)
- Determine alternate control center requirements.

Chapter 3

TRAINING

3.1. ABO Training. ABO training is fundamental to an installation's contingency readiness capability. People train in three stages; They learn:

- Fundamental ABO indoctrination (basic soldier skills) within Basic Military Training (BMT).
- Formal and specialized training during Air Education and Training Command formal courses.
- Proficiency training at the installation or during attendance at a contingency readiness exercise site.

3.2. Installation Level Training. Installation commanders ensure that ABO training follows the procedures in the MAJCOM or ARC supplement to this AFI.

- ABO Indoctrination. Unit trainers:
  - Teach contingency response, expedient hardening techniques, damage assessment and reporting, dispersal, and other ability-to-survive-and-operate (ATSO) actions through on-the-job training (OJT).
- Incorporate into existing training and exercise programs as much hands-on training as mission and resources allow.
- See AFI 32-4001 and AFI 90-201, *Inspector General Activities,* for additional criteria for exercise requirements.

3.2.1. Camouflage, Concealment, and Deception (CCD) Training. See AFI 32-4007.

3.2.2. NBC Warfare Defense Training. See AFI 32-4001.

3.2.3. Augmentation Training. See AFI 10-217, *Resource Augmentation Duty (READY) Program*.

3.2.4. The Civil Engineer Readiness Flight. Includes "common task" soldiering skill information in its information program. See AFI 32-4001 for further guidance on the information program.

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The Civil Engineer

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS, ACRONYMS, AND TERMS

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ABD—Air Base Defense

ABO—Air Base Operability

AFMAN—Air Force Manual

APOD—Aerial Ports of Debarkation

ARC—Air Reserve Component

ATSO—Ability To Survive and Operate

BCE—Base Civil Engineer

CCD—Camouflage, Concealment, and Deception

COB—Collocated Operating Base

CONUS—Continental United States

DAT—Damage Assessment Team

DCC—Damage Control Center

EOD—Explosive Ordnance Disposal

IG—Inspector General

MAJCOM—Major Command

MOB—Main Operating Base

MOS—Minimum Operating Strip

NBC—Nuclear, Biological, Chemical

NBCC—Nuclear, Biological, Chemical, and Conventional

PMD—Program Management Directive

POM—Program Objective Memorandum

RD&A—Research, Development, and Acquisition

RRR—Rapid Runway Repair

SRC—Survival Recovery Center

UXO—Unexploded Ordnance

Terms

Ability To Survive-and-Operate (ATSO)—A major area graded during exercises and inspections for operational readiness that describes a unit's ability to protect, sustain, or restore an installation's mission capability. Criteria for ATSO includes:

- Command and control.
- Contingency operations before, during, and after a contingency.
- Plans for hardening.
- Detection and warning procedures.
- Reconnaissance team readiness.
- Contamination avoidance procedures.
- Damage repair; fire protection; and individual protection actions.

Active Defense—Local security measures, normal and emergency, required to detect, deter, defeat, or limit the effectiveness of enemy attacks directed against air bases and USAF resources.

Air Base—Any installation that supports Air Force operations, including base supporting facilities essential to the air base mission.

Contamination Control—Procedures to avoid, reduce, remove, or render NBC contamination temporarily or permanently harmless.

Control Centers—Facilities or locations used by units or staff agencies to respond and control resources during a contingency.

Passive Defense—Measures taken without engaging enemy forces to reduce the probability of and to minimize the effects of damage caused by hostile action.

Survival Recovery Center (SRC)—The command and control element that directs and monitors the installation's actions before, during and after a contingency.